

October 4, 2006 PLUMBERS LICENSING BOARD MINUTES

Meeting convened at 8:37 a.m.

Adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

DOPL STAFF

Craig Jackson, Division Director
David Stanley, Associate Director
Dennis Meservy, Bureau Manager
Katie Tris, Board Secretary
Alan Dawes, Office Technician

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert B. Dudley, Chairman
David Told
Ed Gongaware

EXCUSED MEMBERS

Gloria Miley
David Halverson

VISITORS

George Billings, Salt Lake Community College
Trina Hansen, Ogden Weber Applied Technical College
Douglas Leon, Davis Applied Technology College
Will Pierce, Salt Lake Community College

BUSINESS:

MINUTES

The September 6, 2006 board meeting minutes were presented for approval. Ed Gongaware made a motion to approve the minutes. David Told seconded, and all members voted to approve the minutes.

APPRENTICESHIP PLUMBING CURRICULUM

Robert Dudley stated at the previous board meeting he requested that the Salt Lake Community College provide the standardized plumbing curriculum for state schools. Gongaware stated the curriculum for the Utah Pipes Trades was different. It takes the students five years, instead of four years, to complete the program and the students can graduate with an Associate of Applied Science degree. Dudley stated after reviewing the state curriculum there were two items of concern. First was whether the curriculum and the schools were teaching what the apprentices or students needed for the trade. Second was the competency of the apprentices when they graduated.

Told mentioned the section of the curriculum covering gas piping may not be adequate. The apprentices taking the state wide test appear to have a problem with the gas piping questions. Dudley stated that when he was in school they covered the code by reading the code out loud in class. It was his opinion that more interest would be generated if the instructor during the first year of study just covered the highlights of the code. Dudley also commented the principles of hydraulics should be in the curriculum. Told stated it was important to make sure that what students were being taught matched up with the code and the test questions. Dudley asked about plumbing fittings not being used in class. They should be used from the start of the apprenticeship program. The comment was made the fitting were used in lab classes and also in preparation for the state journeyman test. The answer was probably not, when the question was asked if the instructors in the various schools were actually following the state wide curriculum. The board expressed concern that all state schools were not teaching from the curriculum.

Dudley asked that when the various state schools meet together if they would discuss the curriculum. Will Pierce mentioned the schools were going to be meeting very soon and this was already an agenda item for discussion.

David Stanley mentioned it would be proper for the board to form a subcommittee to review the curriculum and report back to the board. The subcommittee members would need to be pulled from all areas. Dudley asked the schools, after attending their meeting, to be in attendance at the next board meeting. Dudley also asked the Utah Mechanical Contractor's Association and the Utah Plumbing and Heating Contractors Association to meet with the board. Katie Tris will phone both of these associations and invited them to the next board meeting for discussion in regards to the subcommittee.

Told said he thought the curriculum was good. Dennis Meservy asked if the discussed curriculum was working for the schools. The answer was yes. However, the competency tests now being administered by the schools would be a true indicator of the effectiveness of the instruction and the curriculum. Pierce stated students, upon the recommendation of the board, are allowed to test a second time if they fail the first competency test. However, if they fail the second time they have to repeat that semester of school. This reflects the state testing requirements. The competency testing helps students to be more serious in their studies and the multi testing also helps students over come the fear of testing when they take their state test.

THOMSON PROMETRIC

Dudley indicated that schools should direct their students to bring with them to the state test the Candidate Information Bulletin from the test provider, Thomson Prometric. This is their contract with the testing provider and is useful in clearing up what is allowed and what is not allowed in the testing center.

The board discussed the listed reference materials or books on Thomson Prometric's Candidate Information Bulletin that the testing candidate can take with them and use during the test. Meservy stated he would have the board go over the Candidate Information Bulletin the next time it came up for review. Meservy said there is now a new contact person for Thomson Prometric and he is working with him to obtain the testing reports.

UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF MASTER PLUMBER

Dudley indicated there was a meeting with Senator Scott Jenkins in regards to drafting a bill for the master plumber license classification. He did not attend, but Meservy was present at the meeting. Meservy indicated representatives of industry were present at the meeting. The discussion was about a five year requirement that included a year of education in business management. The board is hopeful the fifth year only deals with standard business classes. Dudley said there was going to be another meeting with Senator Jenkins to review the bill on October 18, 2006 and he would keep the board advised of the progress of the bill.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES HEARING OUTCOME

It was expressed that there was no opposition regarding the new plumbing administrative rules which includes the one journeyman to two apprentice ratio for both commercial and residential type work. The earliest this new administrative rules could go into affect would be October 10, 2006.

LETTER TO IAPMO

Ron Moore with IAPMO at the previous board meeting indicated that the talks with ICC had broken down and it appeared that the combining of the two plumbing codes was not going to occur. Moore requested a letter from the board in support of the single code. Meservy will draft a letter and bring it to the next meeting for the board to review.

MISCELLANEOUS

Trina Hansen asked if the state was on the same plumbing code statewide. Dudley replied yes. The state adopted the International Plumbing Code. However, the code is enforced by local jurisdictions and because of this enforcement varies.

Told said presently an apprentice can test twice on each section of the test. He, however, at the next board meeting would like to discuss the concept of three times testing. Dudley asked that this be put on the next board meeting agenda for discussion.

Ed Gongaware asked that he needed some non-union proctors to help with the practical test.

All business concluded, meeting adjourned.

Note: This report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript, but is intended to record the significant features of what was discussed in the meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily arranged in chronological order.

Board Chairperson Signature

Date:

Dennis Meservy, Bureau Manager Signature

Date: